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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,631	09/08/2003	Naoyuki Sato	SONY-26700	3451
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			EXAMINER HOANG, HIEU T	
			ART UNIT 2452	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 03/24/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach a generic API coupled to one application and a synchronization layer, wherein the generic synchronization communications between the one or more applications and the interface layer are independent of a synchronization protocol used between the interface layer and the synchronization layer. The examiner respectfully disagrees. The prior art does disclose "one or more synchronization protocol stacks" as a plurality of synchronization protocol such as HTTP, SyncML, WebDAV, SOAP and ebXML (Ong, [0143]); whereas the application also uses SyncML, WebDAV as synchronization protocols (application, fig. 4). Furthermore, a synchronization protocol stack can also be read as any plug-in module that provides synchronization executes tasks by Ong ([0139], [0133]). At least one synchronization protocols inherently exist in a protocol stack of the network device that supports the protocols (see support in Ericsson, SyncML Sync Protocol, version 1.0.1, section 1.1, fig. 1, SyncML I/F is the interface layer, SyncML adapters communicating to each other on a synchronization layer with SyncML synchronization protocol (presentation layer of a OSI stack), coupled to HTTP/WSP/OBEX or the network layer). Furthermore, Ong discloses a generic API that comprises a plurality of converting and merging plug-ins (for synchronization), wherein default plug-ins can be provided ([0139], or standard plug-ins for standard synchronization can be provided). In [0133] lines 14-18, Ong discloses that a plug-in is independent of an application (plug-ins can be updated dynamically at runtime independently of an application). Therefore, application communications with the API is independent of the synchronization scheme (converting and merging modules) provided by the API, reading on the synchronization

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communications between the one or more applications and the interface layer are independent of a protocol used between the interface layer and the synchronization protocol stacks.

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/Kenny S Lin/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452